

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 00450 171122Z

15

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INR-07 SP-02 A-01 MMS-01 PER-01

ABF-01 RSC-01 SS-15 /045 W

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R 171020Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7577

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 450

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TU, US

SUBJ: AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL STRENGTH OF JUSMMAT

REF: A. STATE 9132; B. ANKARA 5180 DATED 7/1/74

1. WE HAVE BEEN HOLDING IN ABEYANCE RECOMMENDATION ON JUSMMAT FY 75 MANNING LEVEL PENDING RESOLUTION OF CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. WHILE OUR CONCERNS EXPRESSED IN REF B RE POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF A REDUCTION HAVE NOT LESSENED, WE NOTE THAT JUSMMAT ON BOARD STRENGTH AS OF SEPTEMBER 30 WAS 150 AND FEEL THAT ANY POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS OF A FURTHER MODERATE REDUCTION WOULD PROBABLY BE MINIMAL.

2. JUSMMAT HAS IDENTIFIED TEN POSITIONS ABOVE THE PROPOSED 125 FY 75 STRENGTH WHICH IT BELIEVES ARE NECESSARY TO ASSIST TURKISH ARMED FORCES IN MEETING NEW NEEDS AND PRIORITIES, MOSTLY IN TECHNICAL FIELDS, AND BELIEVES THAT FULL REDUCTION TO 125 TOTAL WOULD SERIOUSLY HAMPER ITS ABILITY TO PROVIDE THAT ASSISTANCE AND ADVICE. WE BELIEVE THAT PROVISION OF NEEDED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO GOT IN SUCH FIELDS AS NAVAL ELECTRONICS AND AVIATION, COMMUNICATIONS, AND ELECTRONIC WARFARE COULD PAY GOOD POLITICAL DIVIDENDS AT CRUCIAL MOMENT IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH TURKEY. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND A MANNING LEVEL OF 135 (OR 133 IF NECESSARY) TO BE REACHED BY CONTINUING GRADUAL REDUCTION.

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WE WOULD, OF COURSE, WISH TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT MANNING

LEVEL SHOULD CONGRESSIONAL ACTION RESULT IN CHANGES IN PRESENT
PROGRAM PLANS.
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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